
Curriculum Vitae for John J. Curry

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Educational Background:

- Ph.D., History, The Ohio State University, *summa cum laude*, June 2005.

Dissertation: “Defending Islamic Mysticism in an Age of Transformation: The Foundation and Development of the Şaʿbaniyye Branch of the Halveti Order in the Ottoman Empire as Reflected in Its Hagiographical Writings, 1500-1750.” Committee: Prof. Jane Hathaway (chair), Prof. Carter Findley and Prof. Stephen Dale.

Brief Abstract: Examines the historical development of the Şaʿbaniyye branch of the Halveti mystical order, one of the most influential Sufi orders in the Ottoman Empire, between the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries. Hagiographical works produced by this branch shed light on the interface between mystical practice and wider Ottoman religio-intellectual trends, as well as the interaction of various social groups in the Empire during the formative decades of its growth and transformation in the early modern period (refer to attached abstract).

- M.A. History 1998, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, *summa cum laude*
- M.A. Arabic Language 1998, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, *summa cum laude*
Dual M.A. program, pursued jointly through both departments.

Thesis: “The Precedent of ‘Arbassūs: Arabic Sources on the Island of Cyprus from the seventh through the tenth centuries C.E.” Advisors: Profs. Jane Hathaway (History) and Michael Zwettler (Near Eastern Languages and Cultures–Arabic).

Brief Abstract: Uses Arabic narrative sources and inscriptions to shed light on the condominium over Cyprus between the Byzantine Empire and the Umayyad and, later, ‘Abbasid, empires.

- M.A. Program, Department of History, University of Michigan, 1993-1994.
- Arabic Language and Culture Program, The American University in Cairo, 1992-1993.
(on J. William Fulbright fellowship).
- B.A., History, Northwestern University, *cum laude*, 1992.
(Minor in sub-Saharan African Studies).

Publications and Presentations:

Monographs:

- The Transformation of Muslim Mystical Thought in the Ottoman Empire: The Rise of the Halveti Order. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010.

Edited Volumes:

- The Nexus of Sufism and Society: Arrangements of the Mystical in the Muslim World, 1200-1800. Edited by John J. Curry and Erik S. Ohlander. London: Routledge (Sufi Series), 2011.

Refereed Journal Articles:

- “Introduction.” The Nexus of Sufism and Society: Arrangements of the Mystical in the Muslim World, 1200-1800. Edited by John J. Curry and Erik S. Ohlander. London: Routledge (Sufi Series), 2011.
- “‘The Meeting of the Two Sultans’: Three Sufi Mystics Negotiate with the Court of Murad III.” The Nexus of Sufism and Society: Arrangements of the Mystical in the Muslim World, 1200-1800. Edited by John J. Curry and Erik S. Ohlander. London: Routledge (Sufi Series), 2011.
- “Bir Osmanlı Araştırmacısının Batı Yarım Kürenin Keşfi Üzerindeki Düşünceleri: Katip Çelebi’nin Cihannüma’da Amerika Kitasına Bakışı” (An Ottoman Scholar Reflects on the Discovery of the Western Hemisphere: Katip Çelebi’s look at the Americas in the Cihannüma). In Doğumunun 400. Yıldönümünde Katip Çelebi (“Katip Çelebi on the 400th Anniversary of his Birth”). Edited by Bekir Karlığa and Mustafa Kaçar, pp. 161-171. Ankara: T.C Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı Anma ve Armağan Kitapları Dizisi 17, 2009.
- “The Intersection of Past and Present in the Genesis of an Ottoman Sufi Order: The Life of Cemâl el-Halvetî (d. 900/1494 or 905/1499) and the Origins of the Halvetî *Tarîqa*.” Journal of Turkish Studies (In Memoriam Şinasi Tekin) 32 (2008):121-141.
- “Some Thoughts on the Greater Integration of Islamic Sources into the Wider Framework of Medieval History.” Quidditas: Journal of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association 28 (2007):158-181.
- “Home Is Where The Shaykh Is”: The Concept of Exile in the Hagiography of İbrahim-i Gülşeni.” Al-Masaq: Islam and the Medieval Mediterranean 17:1 (March 2005): 47-60.
- “Defending the Cult of Saints in 17th-Century Kastamonu: Omer al-Fu’adi’s Contribution to Religious Debate in Ottoman Society.” In Frontiers of Ottoman Studies: State, Province and the West, vol. 1, 139-148. Edited by Keiko Kiyotaki and Rhoads Murphey. London: I.B. Tauris & Co., 2005.
- “Hagiography as a Source for Women’s History in the Ottoman Empire: The Curious Case of Ünsî Hasan.” Electronic Journal of Middle Eastern Studies 3:2 (Fall 2003):50-58.
- “The Growth of a Turkish-Language Hagiographical Literature Within the Halveti Order of the 16th and 17th Centuries.” In The Turks, v. 3, 912-920. Edited by Hasan Celal Güzel et al. Ankara: Yeni Türkiye Press, 2002. (Simultaneously published in Turkish translation as “XVI. ve XVII. Yüzyıllarda Halveti Tarikatı İçindeki Türkçe Menâkıb Edebiyatının Gelişmesi.” In Türkler, v. 11, 815-822. Edited by Hasan Celal Güzel et al. Ankara: Yeni

Türkiye Press, 2002).

Translations:

- Kâtip Çelebi (Hajji Khalifa, d. 1657). Cihânnümâ. Edited by Gottfried Hagen and Robert Dankoff, translated by Gary Leiser, John J. Curry and Ferenc Csirkes, *translation completed in early 2011; publication expected in 2013*.

Encyclopedia Articles and Reference Entries:

- “Ömer el-Halvetî, Ebu ‘Abdullah Sirâcüddîn (d. 800/1397-98).” In Biographical Dictionary of Islamic Civilization and Culture. Edited by Muhammad Abdel Haleem and Mustafa Shah. London: I.B. Tauris, *accepted for publication and forthcoming in late 2012*.
- “Yahyâ-yı Şîrvânî (d. 868-869/1464-65).” In Biographical Dictionary of Islamic Civilization and Culture. London: I.B. Tauris, *accepted for publication and forthcoming in late 2012*.

Book Reviews:

- Douglas E. Streusand. Islamic Gunpowder Empires: Ottomans, Safavids and Mughals. In Digest of Middle East Studies 20:2 (Fall 2011):351-354.
- Karl E. Meyer and Shareen Blair Brysac. Kingmakers: The Invention of the Modern Middle East. In The Historian 72:3 (Fall 2010):631-632.
- Karen Barkey. Empire of Difference: The Ottoman Empire in Comparative Perspective. In Journal of World History 20:4 (December 2009):601-604.
- Beatrice Forbes Manz. Power, Politics and Religion in Timurid Iran. In Digest of Middle East Studies 18:1 (Spring 2009):139-144.
- Suraiya N. Faroqhi, ed. The Cambridge History of Turkey Volume 3: The Later Ottoman Empire, 1603-1839. In Digest of Middle East Studies 17:1 (Spring 2008): 128-136.
- Richard Bulliet. The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization. In Digest of Middle East Studies 16:1 (2007):119-125.
- Dina Le Gall. A Culture of Sufism: Naqshbandis in the Ottoman World, 1450-1700. In Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient 48 (2005):336-339.
- Leslie Peirce. Morality Tales: Law and Gender in the Ottoman Court of Aintab. In Journal of the American Oriental Society 125:1 (2005):102-104.
- Patricia Crone. God’s Rule: Government and Islam: Six Centuries of Islamic Political Thought. In Digest of Middle East Studies 14:1 (Spring 2005):63-67.
- Michael Cook. Forbidding Wrong in Islamic Society. In Digest of Middle East Studies 13:1 (Spring 2004):41-44.
- Fred Halliday, Islam and the Myth of Confrontation, 2nd ed., and Sohail H. Hashmi, ed., Islamic Political Ethics: Civil Society, Pluralism, and Conflict, joint review. In Digest of Middle East Studies (DOMES) 12:2 (Fall 2003):59-66.

- Amnon Cohen. The Guilds of Ottoman Jerusalem. H-Net Review for H-Mideast-Medieval (Feb. 2003): <http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=168891045306236>
- Jawad A. Mojeddedi. The Biographical Tradition in Sufism: The Tabaqat Genre from al-Sulami to Jami. In Middle East Studies Association Bulletin 36:1 (Summer 2002):60-61.
- Jonathan Berkey. Popular Preaching in Medieval Islam. In Electronic Journal of Middle Eastern Studies 2 (March 2002): <http://web.mit.edu/cis/www/mitejmes/intro.htm>

Scholarly Papers and Panels:

- “Katip Çelebi's Conception of the Indian Subcontinent and Indian Ocean World in the Cihânnüma.” Middle Eastern Studies Association Conference: Washington, DC, December 2011.
- “Seeking the remedies: Katip Celebi's presentation of useful medical remedies from the Far East and the Americas.” Middle Eastern Studies Association Conference: San Diego, California, November 2010.
- “China or Cathay? The Ottoman Geographer Katib Celebi's Interpretation of the Ming Dynasty.” Western Ottomanists' Workshop, Portland, Oregon, October 2010.
- “A Seventeenth-Century Muslim's Contribution to World History: Kâtip Çelebi Examines the Societies of the Pacific Ocean in his Cihânnümâ.” World History Association Conference: San Diego, California, June 2010.
- “Culmination of Medieval Islamic Geography, or Start of a New Era? The Ottoman Intellectual Kâtip Çelebi Reflects on a Wider World.” Great Lakes Ottoman Workshop: Montreal, Canada, March 2010.
- “The Island of Cyprus in the Early Islamic World: Harmonizing Legal and Geographical Visions.” American Historical Association Conference: San Diego, California, January 2010.
- “Kâtip Çelebi's Discussion of European Expansion in the Cihânnümâ.” Middle East Studies Association Conference: Boston, Massachusetts, November 2009.
- “An Ottoman Scholar Reflects on the Discovery of the Western Hemisphere: Kâtip Çelebi's Vision of the Americas in the Cihânnüma.” UNESCO International Kâtip Çelebi Symposium: Ankara, Turkey, June 2009.
- “The Challenge of the Early Halvetî Silsile: Assessing the Work of the Ottoman Hagiographer Mahmûd Cemâleddîn Hulvî.” Great Lakes Ottoman Workshop: Columbus, Ohio, April 2009.
- “Traversing Time and Space in Later Medieval Muslim Hagiography: Evolution of a Trope Among the Halvetî Mystics.” Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association Conference: Flagstaff, Arizona, April 2009.
- “Illness, Disease and Affliction in Sufi Hagiography: Literary Trope or Evidence of Ideological Evolution?” Middle Eastern Studies Association: Washington, DC, November 2008.
- “The Nexus of Sufism and Society: Arrangements of the Mystical in the Muslim World, 1200-1800 C.E.” Middle Eastern Studies Association: Montreal, Canada, November 2007.

- “Insights on provincial Ottoman cultural life from Sufi histories: the Şa`baniyye of Kastamonu,” American Research Institute in Turkey: Istanbul, Turkey, June, 2007.
- “Differences in Early Muslim Legal and Political Thought on the Status of Frontier Zones: the Case of Cyprus,” Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association: Tempe, Arizona, February 2007.
- “Re-Describing the Nexus of Sufism and Society,” Middle Eastern Studies Association: Boston, Massachusetts, November 2006.
- “The Meeting of the Two Sultans: Three Sufi Mystics Negotiate with the Court of Murad III,” Great Lakes Ottoman Workshop: Toronto, Canada, March 2006.
- “Contrasting Approaches to the Life and Work of an Early Ottoman Saint: Cemal el-Halveti (d. 1494),” Middle Eastern Studies Association: Washington, DC, November 2005.
- “Insights on the Psychology of a Medieval Ruler: The Correspondence and Dreams of Murad III as a Historical Source,” Middle Eastern Studies Association: San Francisco, CA, November 2004.
- “The Curious Case of Unsi Hasan: An Unsuccessful Muslim Saint in the Ottoman Empire,” 38th International Congress on Medieval Studies: Kalamazoo, MI, May 2003.
- “A Sufi ‘State’: Muhyi-yi Gulsheni’s (d. 1606) ‘City of Virtue’ and Sultan Murad III,” American Historical Association: Chicago, IL, January 2003.
- “A Sufi ‘State’: Muhyi-yi Gulsheni’s (d. 1606) Concept of the ‘City of Virtue,’” Middle Eastern Studies Association: Washington, DC, November 2002.
- “Defending the Cult of Saints in 17th-Century Kastamonu: Omer al-Fu’adi’s Contribution to Religious Debate in Ottoman Society,” Comite International d’Etudes Pre-Ottomanes et Ottomanes: London, England, July 2002.
- “‘Home is Where the Shaykh Is’: The Use of the Concept of Exile in the Hagiography of Ibrahim-i Gulsheni,” International Medievalists’ Conference: Leeds, England, July 2002.
- “The Growth of a Turkish-Language Hagiographical Literature Within the Halveti Order of the 16th and 17th Centuries,” Middle East Studies Association Conference: San Francisco, CA, November 2001.
- “The Importance of Hagiography as a Historical Source for the Ottoman Empire. The Case of the *Menakib-i Ibrahim-i Gülşeni* and Others,” Sabancı University Colloquium on Topics in Ottoman History: Istanbul, Turkey, March 2001.

Areas of Teaching Interests and Expertise:

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| • Early and Medieval Islamic History | • Modern Middle East |
| • Ottoman and Turkish History | • World History and World Systems |
| • European History | • Byzantine History/Late Antiquity |
| • Sub-Saharan African History | • Central Asian History |
| • Turkish Language and Literature | • Arabic Language and Literature |

Postgraduate Teaching Experience:

July 2011-Present

Associate Professor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

- *Responsible for teaching sections of World History 103 (a thematic survey of early modern and modern world history)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 208 (a survey of world history from the earliest human civilizations to 1500 C.E.)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 209 (a survey of world history from roughly 1500 C.E. to the present)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 478A (an upper division course surveying Islamic and Near Eastern history from the origins of Islam to the eighteenth century)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 478B (an upper division course surveying the history of the Modern Middle East)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 678A (a graduate student course that functions in conjunction with History 478 above)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 678B (a graduate student course that functions in conjunction with History 478 above)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 738 (a graduate student readings and topical colloquium focusing on development of research and professional skills)*
- *Responsible for teaching History 739 (a graduate student seminar focusing on developing writing and presentation skills)*

July 2006-June 2011

Assistant Professor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

August 2005-June 2006

Instructor, Bowling Green State University

- *Responsible for teaching sections of both World History 151 (world history to 1500) and World History 152 (world history from 1500 to the present), and supervising graduate student teaching assistants*
- *Responsible for teaching History 391, which includes surveys of both pre-modern and modern Near Eastern and Islamic history*
- *Responsible for teaching a section of History 480, a seminar for upper-division undergraduate and graduate student on political and religious movements in Islamic history*